

Message Text

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44

ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 ISO-00 SS-07 NSC-06 AID-01 /022 W

----- 013634

R 100821Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3124

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LILONGWE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LUSAKA 0864

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP (HUNTER, R/BATES, R)

SUBJECT: STAFFDEL HUNTER/BATES

REF: STATE 085173

1. EMBASSY RAISED SUBJECT VISIT TO LUSAKA APR 20-21 WITH BOTH FONMIN BANDA AND PRESIDENTIAL ADVISOR MARK CHONA IN CONNECTION WITH PROPOSED VISIT TO LUSAKA OF SENATOR PERCY (STATE 84795). REACTION IDENTICAL IN BOTH CASES, I.E., ZAMBIA DELIGHTED TO KNOW SOME OF ITS CLOSEST CD MOST SYMPATHETIC AMERICAN FRIENDS WANT TO VISIT LUSAKA BUT TIMING IS NOT RPT NOT CONVENIENT FOR RANKING OFFICIALS AND IT UNLIKELY APPOINTMENTS COULD BE SET UP TO ACCOMMODATE VISITORS LC PROPOSED DATES. PRES KAUNDA, CHONA, AND BANDA PLUS ASSORTED OTHER GOVERNMENT LEADERS AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS ADVISORS WILL ALL BE IN MAPUTO FOR ENTIRE WEEK APR 20-26.

2. BOTH BANDA AND CHONA INQUIRED IF STAFFDEL VISIT TO LUSAKA COULD BE POSTPONED UNTIL SECOND WEEK OF MAY WHEN SECRETARY'S VISIT AND NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING OF ZAMBIAN RULING PARTY WILL BOTH BE OVER. WE SAID WE WOULD COMMUNICATE THIS GRZ PREFERENCE TO WASHINGTON WHILE AWAITING FURTHER DETAILS OMR PROPOSED VISIT.

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3. MEANWHILE EMBASSY HAS BOOKED HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS
AS REQUESTED AT INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL FOR NIGHTS APR 20-21.

4. REQUEST DEPARTMENT ADVISE STAFFDEL THAT LOCAL AIRLINE
TICKET AGENCIES INFORM US THERE NO LONGER ANY FLIGHTS BETWEEN
BLANTYRE AND SALISBURY BECAUSE OF CLOSURE ZAMBIQUE
AIRSPACE TO OVERFLIGHTS TO AND FROM RHODESIA. EMBASSY
LILONGWE MAY WISH TO CONFIRM THIS INFORMATION.
WILKOWSKI

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LUSAKA00864
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760136-0864
From: LUSAKA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760475/aaaacyl.tel
Line Count: 70
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION H
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 85173
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 JUN 2004 by adamsodm>; APPROVED <13 OCT 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STAFFDEL HUNTER/BATES
TAGS: OREP, (HUNTER, ROBERT), (BATES, ROBERT)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006